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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Norman H. Bangerter
Governor
Dee C. Hansen
Executive Director
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Division Director

Southeastern Region
455 West Railroad Avenue
Price, Utah 84501-2829
801-637-3310
801-637-7361 (Fax)

cc: JPB
11/20/93 orig. file

RECEIVED

JAN 19 1993

DIVISION OF
WILDLIFE RESOURCES

January 15, 1993

Harry Campbell
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
288 North 1460 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116-0690

Dear Mr. Campbell:

I reviewed the Co-Op Mining Company's Notice of Intent for a new discharge point from a sedimentation basin. There are several points of concern that should be considered.

Bear Creek is a tributary of Huntington Creek, a class 3A stream. Brown, rainbow and cutthroat trout occur in Huntington Creek downstream of the confluence with Bear Creek. Brown trout reproduce below this confluence. The Division of Wildlife Resources is concerned with the potential impacts this discharge poses to this valuable resource. All caution should be taken by the Co-Op Mine to keep the sediment pond free of toxic contaminants due to discharge from the shower house and the parking area. If emergency response and containment equipment is not available, the mine should, at the minimum, store adsorption and containment equipment at the shower house.

Bear Creek is a highly erosive drainage, therefore any approved discharge points should have stipulations related to the maximum discharge volume. I understand the Mine does not plan to discharge from this location so this should not be a concern. You indicated that you did not feel your agency could address the erosion issue as long as the turbidity levels at the point of discharge were within standards. For the record, I do not believe this is true. Pacific Corp's discharge (UPDES UT0023604) into Deer Creek is an example. If the Mine proposes discharging large volumes of water at any of their discharge points, this issue must be considered carefully in order to protect Huntington Creek.

In general, I do not have any significant concerns with this proposal. This is based on the understanding that this discharge point is located at the sediment pond, discharge will be intermittent and minimal and the discharge will be limited to surface runoff from the parking area. If conditions change or additional discharge sources are proposed, this should be reevaluated.

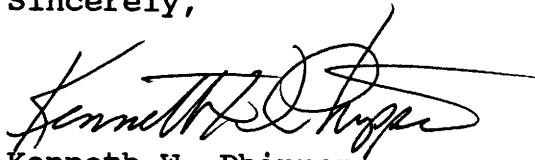
Harry Campbell

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January 15, 1993

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal. If there is need for additional information, please contact me (637-3310).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth W. Phippen". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "K" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth W. Phippen
Regional Habitat Manager

Copy: Maureen Wilson, DWR
Ralph Miles, DWR
Oil, Gas and Mining